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### REPLY: Beta-Blockers for Angina

Time to Reassess the Specific Impact of Drug Therapy in  
Coronary Heart Disease Patients



We thank Dr. Delgado-Almeida for his interest in our paper (1).

We agree that control of angina and improvement of quality of life are important goals of treatment, but we do not have data on the effect of beta-blocker treatment on these patient-related outcomes. It is important to note that treatments may relieve angina symptoms with no effect on mortality (and vice versa) and that relief of angina remains an important indication for treatment.

Dr. Delgado-Almeida's comments about the role of the capillary bed, oxygen binding, red blood cell

deformation, and vasodilation are interesting and deserve to be investigated. Irrespective of possible mechanisms of action, we need reliable empirical evidence about actual clinical outcomes to inform treatment decisions.

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### REFERENCE

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